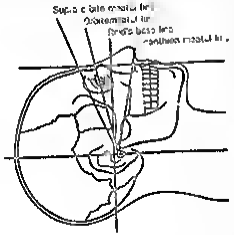
Mitsukazu Mihara

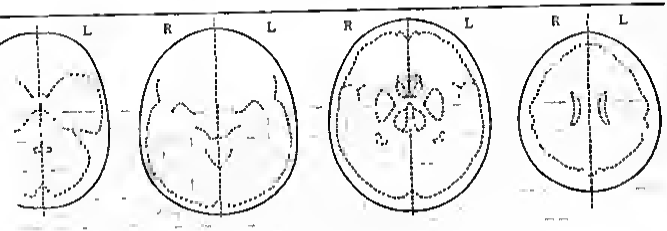
The Embalmer

contents

EMBALMING 26 ...5
EMBALMING 27 ...39
EMBALMING 28 ...63
EMBALMING 29 ...87
EMBALMING 30 ...119

Real Shigeshoshi ...154





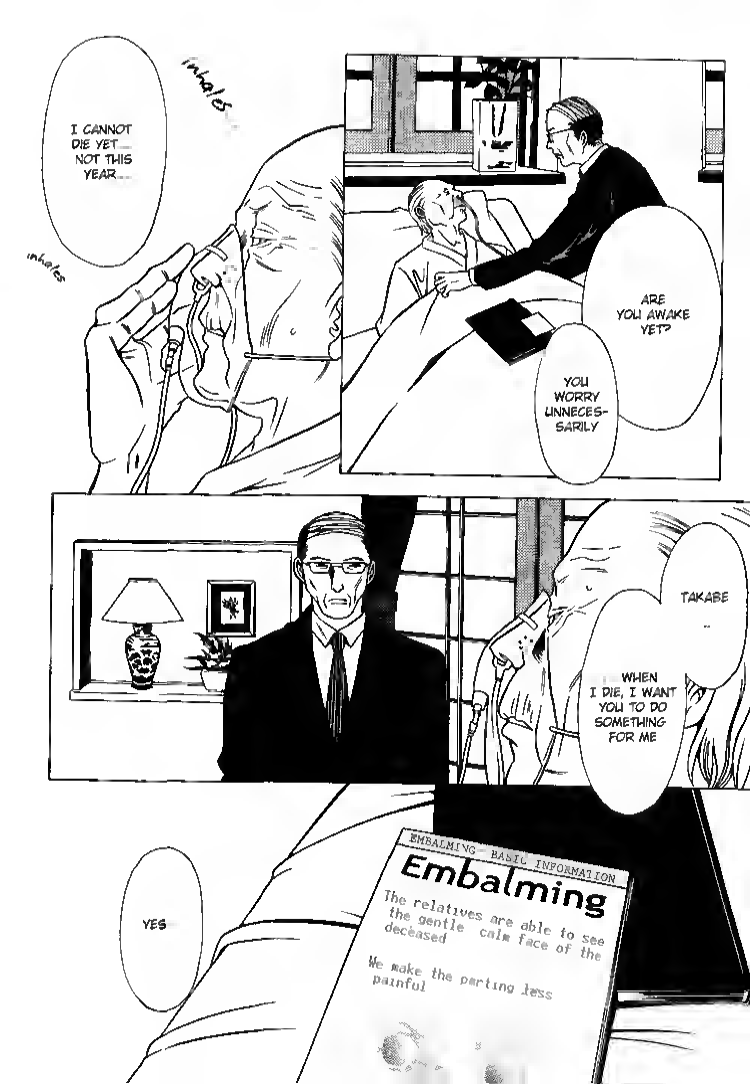
WHEN I WAS LITTLE, I SAW SANTA CLAUS
SANTA?
IT WASN'T A DREAM, I'M SURE OF IT...

BECAUSE I DON'T HAVE A FATHER

HMM
HMM
HMM
AMONG TEENAGERS THE HEART-SHAPED ONE IS THE MOST POPULAR IT RESEMBLES MUTUAL FEELINGS
THE CROSS-SHAPED ONE IS CLASSIC
For me, both of them look the same...
Mr Shimizu

Hmm
CUTE NECKLACE IS IT FOR YOU?
Agh!
AZUKI!
EH?
DOES HE INTEND ON BUYING A GIFT FOR A GIRL? SOME CHICK.
irritated
SOME CHICK?
EXCUSE ME SIR?
sigh
rubs

PLEASE WRAP THE HEART-SHAPED ONE
HOO——
HOO——
MISTER PRESIDENT, THE TOWO AX COMPANY SENDS GET WELL FLOWERS'


I CANNOT DIE YET... NOT THIS YEAR...
inhales
inhales
ARE YOU AWAKE YET?
YOU WORRY UNNECESSARILY
TAKABE...
WHEN I DIE, I WANT YOU TO DO SOMETHING FOR ME
YES
EMBALMING - BASIC INFORMATION
Embalming
The relatives are able to see the gentle calm face of the deceased
We make the parting less painful

Scribble
Scribble
KEIGO IT'S YOUR FATHER'S COMPANY RIGHT?
"DREAM TOYS" MODERN "TRUE SANTA CLAUS" WON'T GIVE PRESENT TO CHILDREN THIS YEAR TOO
Huh...
WHAT DO I CARE? I DON'T EVEN KNOW HIM
I TOLD YOU I DON'T KNOW HIM
SO I WON'T GET THE JOY PORTABLE 3 YOU ASKED FOR ME
Lays
Classic
RELAX, I WAS JUST JOKING
"MOM, WHO IS THIS ?"

IT'S YOU MOM AND ME WHEN I WAS LITTLE
AND THIS SCARY OLD MAN?

IS YOUR GRANDFATHER
THIS PERSON

WHY DON'T I HAVE A PICTURE WITH MY FATHER?
WHY DIDN'T HE COME VISIT ME A SINGLE TIME?
WHY, IN THIS CASE, WE AREN'T LIVING TOGETHER?

WHEN MY MOTHER WAS PREGNANT, SHE RAN AWAY FROM HOME. AND MY FATHER...
MY GRANDFATHER DIDN'T AGREE TO MY PARENTS WEDDING
HA, HA
DID YOU START WRITING A BLOG?
YOU'RE AN IDIOT. THINGS LIKE THAT HAPPEN ONLY IN SOAP OPERAS
WHERE'S YOUR OLD MAN?
KEI!

I DON'T GIVE A DAMN
THUD
TELL ME ABOUT DAD!
HUH
WHETHER HE DISAPPEARED OR DIED
SO MUCH FOR A "TRUE SANTA". HE THREW AWAY MY FAMILY. HYPOCRITE!
WE HAVE AN ANNOUNCEMENT OF DEATH
ON THE THIRD OF DECEMBER, DUE TO HEART FAILURE, SEKIMOTO TADASHI THE PRESIDENT OF THE 'DREAM TOYS' COMPANY HAS DIED
SEKIMOTO TADASHI, THE PRESIDENT OF 'DREAM TOYS' HAS DIED

EH? TO CARRY OUT TWO EMBALMINGS ON A PERSON?!
RENJI, THIS REQUEST MUST BE A JOKE
THAT WAS THE DEAD'S WISH
MALE, 86 CARDIAC INSUFFICIENCY DUE TO HIS AGE
ISN'T THIS THE PRESIDENT OF THE TOY MAKING COMPANY? THEY TALKED ABOUT HIM ON TV.

THE FUNERAL WILL BE HELD IN TWO DAYS
AS FOR THE FIRST EMBALMING — THE DEAD WAS A STRICT PERSON AND HARDLY EVER SMILED HIS WISH WAS NOT TO BE DESTROYED THE IMAGE HE HAD IN THE MEDIA AND AMONGST HIS WORKERS

THAT'S...
AND THE SECOND EMBALMING ?
HERE ARE THE MATERIALS THAT'S HOW HE WOULD LIKE TO SPEND THE LAST MOMENTS WITH HIS FAMILY
THE FACE OF THE PRESIDENT AND THE ONE HIS FAMILY HAD SEEN ARE TWO DIFFERENT FACES
MY JOB IS GRANTING PEOPLE S WISHES

RIGOR MORTIS RECEDES AFTER 2-3 DAYS IN THE SUMMER, IN THE WINTER AFTER 4 DAYS. THEN THE BODY DECAYS.

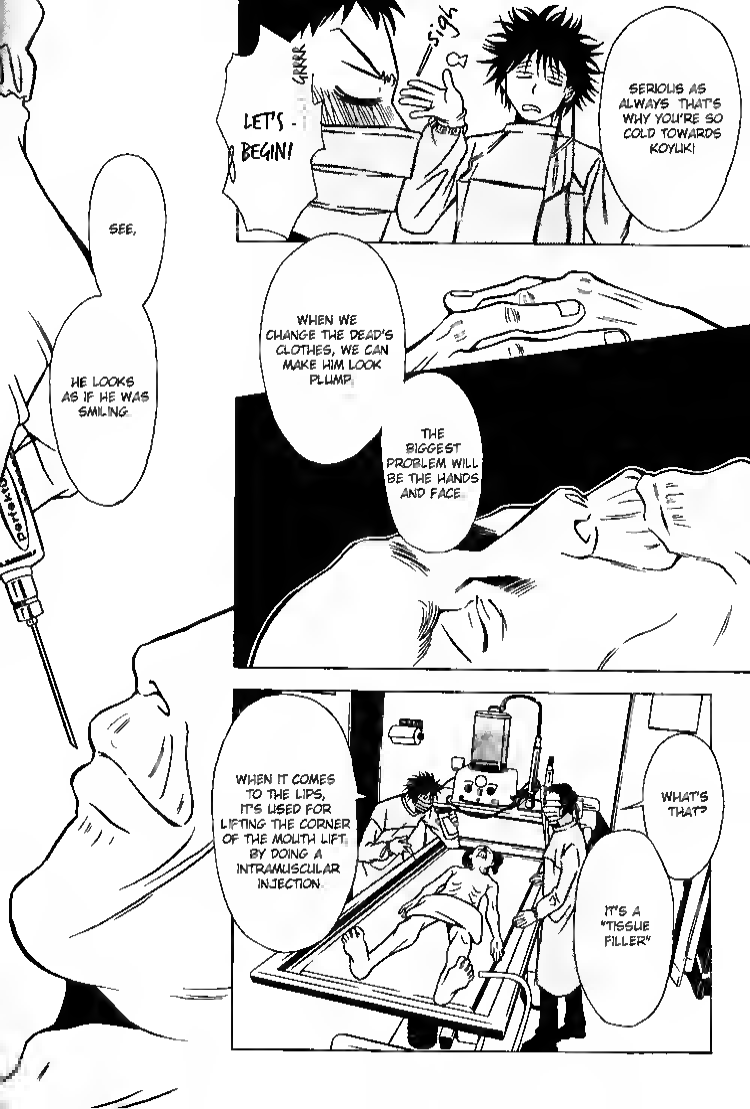
THERE'S NO OTHER WAY THAN TO CARRY OUT THE EMBALMING AND PREVENT THE DECAY.

CLACK
"DEAR SANTA, PLEASE..."
"IF YOU REALLY EXIST, THEN NECESSARILY..."
Dream Toys
PRESIDENT'S FAREWELL CEREMONY
RECEPTION

DOESN'T SEEM AS IF HE WERE EMACIATED BY THE SICKNESS, HE LOOKS GOOD
HE LOOKS AS IF HE IS ABOUT TO STAND UP AND SCOLD SOMEONE
HE SUPPORTED THE POST-WAR ECONOMY UNTIL HIS LAST DAY HE HAS BEEN A VERY INFLUENTIAL PERSON

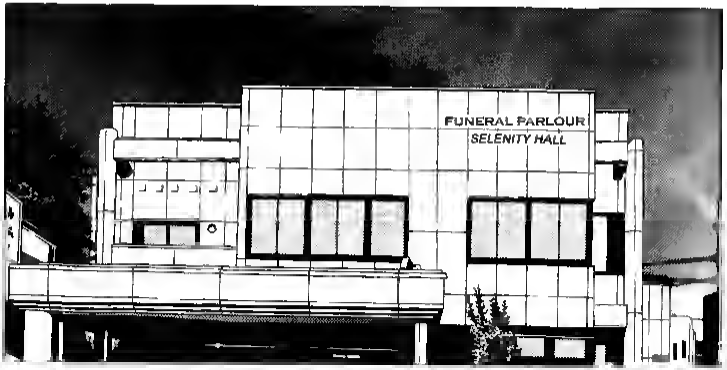
DING
DONG
YEAH
click
cl ck
KEI, YOU'RE GOING OUT?
MY NAME IS TAKABE, I WAS PRESIDENT SAKIMOTO'S SECRETARY

SECOND EMBALMING?
IT'S THE FIRST TIME I GOT SUCH A REQUEST
—!?
HEY RENJI!
I WANT TO SEE IF SOMEONE CAN REALLY CHANGE A PERSON'S COUNTENANCE DOES THE EMBALMING GIVE SUCH A POSSIBILITY...
MY JOB CONSISTS IN INFORMING THE DEAD'S FAMILY ABOUT WHAT CAN BE DONE AND WHAT NOT.


SERIOUS AS ALWAYS. THAT'S WHY YOU'RE SO COLD TOWARDS KOYUKI!
sigh
GRRR
LET'S BEGIN!
WHEN WE CHANGE THE DEAD'S CLOTHES, WE CAN MAKE HIM LOOK PLUMP.
THE BIGGEST PROBLEM WILL BE THE HANDS AND FACE.
SEE,
HE LOOKS AS IF HE WAS SMILING.
Formalin
WHEN IT COMES TO THE LIPS, IT'S USED FOR LIFTING THE CORNER OF THE MOUTH LIFT BY DOING A INTRAMUSCULAR INJECTION.
WHAT'S THAT?
IT'S A "TISSUE FILLER"

NO
IN JAPAN YOU HAVE TO EMPHASISE THE"TYPICAL FEATURES"
IN THE USA IT'S CALLED A "SMALL PLASTIC SURGERY" AND ACCORDING TO THE LEVEL, THERE ARE MANY TECHNIQUES
You can for example increase it 10 times

OH
THEN, THE SECOND EMBALMING IS ONLY FOR THE FAMILY

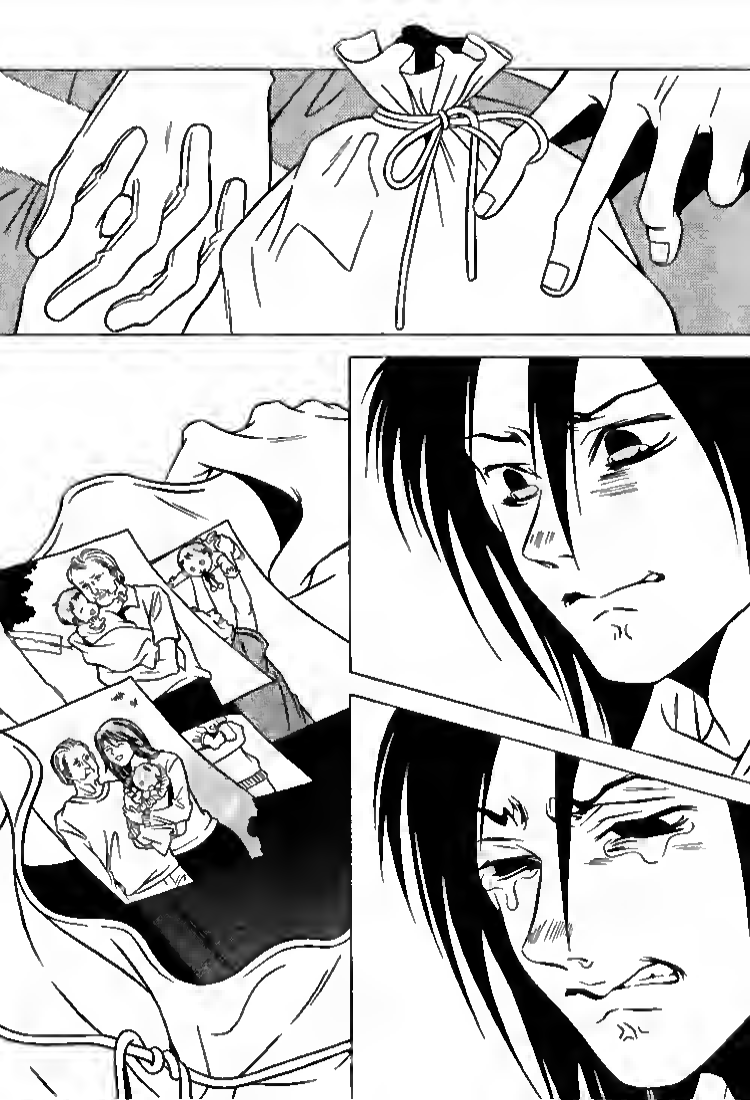


THE PRESIDENT'S WILL WAS TO INVITE ONLY YOU. THAT WAS HIS LAST WISH
HA!
NOW, SHOULD I BELIEVE THAT WE'RE A FAMILY?

KEI...
KEI, PLEASE LOOK...
I'M SORRY I HAVEN'T TOLD YOU ANYTHING
THIS PERSON WASN'T YOUR GRANDFATHER
IT WAS YOUR DAD

I GET IT NOW!
THAT'S WHY HE DIDN'T COME TO VISIT ME EVEN ONCE?
HUH..
I WAS THE CHILD OF A MISTRESS?
THE PRESIDENT ALWAYS TOOK YOU INTO ACCOUNT
THE "TRUE SANTA CLAUS" PROJECT WAS ESTABLISHED FOR YOU TO FORGIVE HIM HIS FAULT

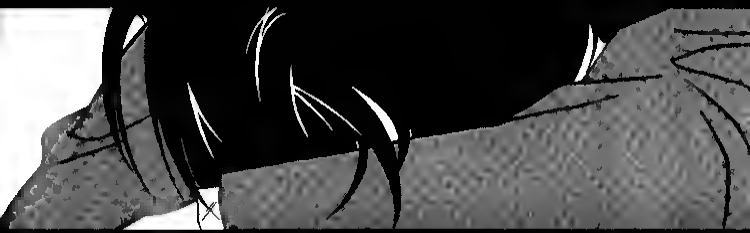
Merry



IDIOT
I DIDN'T EXPECT THAT
WHY, WHEN HE WAS ALIVE
IDIOT
THE SANTA, I SAW WHEN I WAS A KID

"DEAR SANTA"....

"DEAR SANTA"....



"IF YOU REALLY EXIST, THEN NECESSARILY..."

"...MAKE ME MEET MY DAD."

EVEN IF IT WAS PHONEY...

THE SANTA FINALLY GRANTED MY WISH.

Hmm
tremble
DAMN, I FEEL LIKE EMBRACING SOMEONE
AZUKI...

KNOCK KNOCK
DING DONG
?

embalming 26

Private Santa Claus
the end

Femme Fatale scans

The Embalmer

scans-translator-QC
mehmehmeh22

proofreader-editor
x-tina

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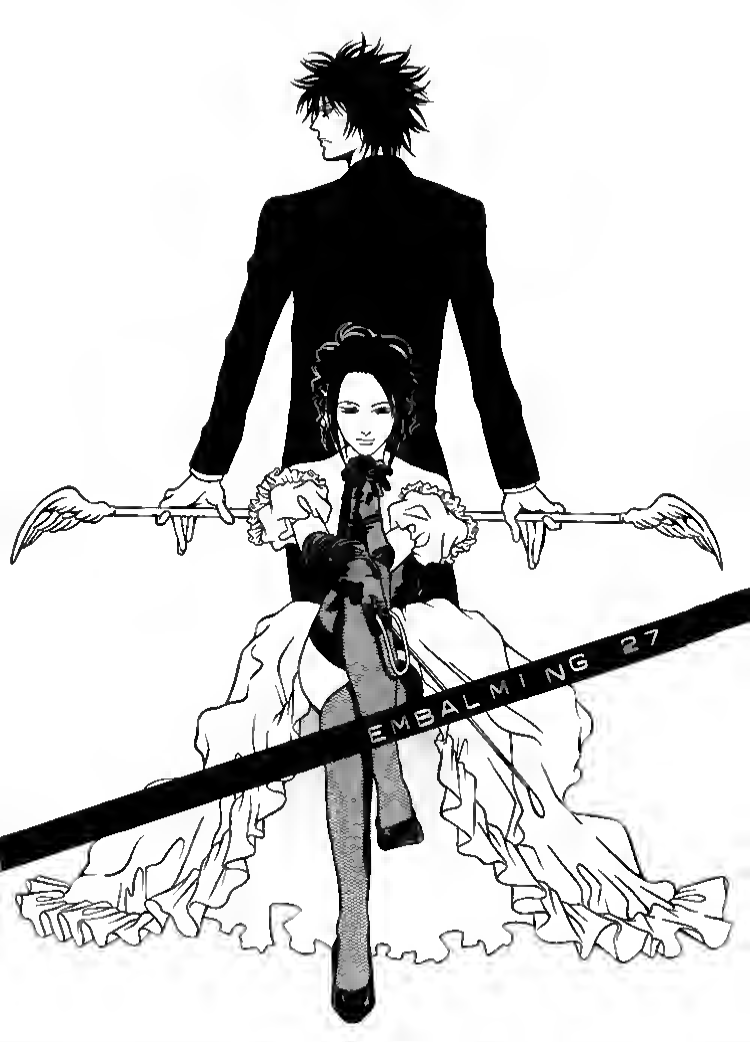

EMBALMING 27

HE'S DRUNK
NOT DOG
YEAH
DOESN'T HAVE BOOBS AT ALL
HERE I THOUGHT IT'S A CUTE GIRL, BUT IT'S A HOMO!
Hmph, THEY STILL HAVEN'T GROWN?
HIC
HEY, DON'T GET AHEAD OF YOUR—
MISTER
SINCE A LONG TIME AGO PEOPLE HAVE BEEN JUDGING OTHERS BY LOOKING AT THEM FOR A COUPLE OF SECONDS ISN'T IT CONSIDERED SEXUAL HARASSMENT

?
HIC
W-WHAT ?
SHOULDN'T YOU GO HOME ALREADY AND EAT DINNER WITH YOUR WIFE?
???
URARA, HOW DID YOU KNOW?
INSIDE THE BAG HE IS CARRYING AN APPETIZER
IF HE WAS LIVING ALONE OR WAS ON A BUSINESS TRIP HE WOULD'VE BOUGHT A WHOLE MEAL, RIGHT?
Yeah
Hi, hi
BINGO ♡
SCARY!
What a sense of observation

SAY, URARA
WHY DID YOU START DESIGNING POSTMODERN CLOTHING?
YOU DID IT ON PURPOSE
Purpose:Ally called him Koenjuuzz
LET'S GET GOING. WE HAVE TO DELIVER IT TO RODRIGEZ TOD, Y... I MEAN, TO MR. MIYA
ODAKYU HALC
OH... IT'S BEEN SUCH A LONG TIME, I DON'T REMEMBER
BLUE CLOTHES FOR BOYS, RED ONES FOR GIRLS

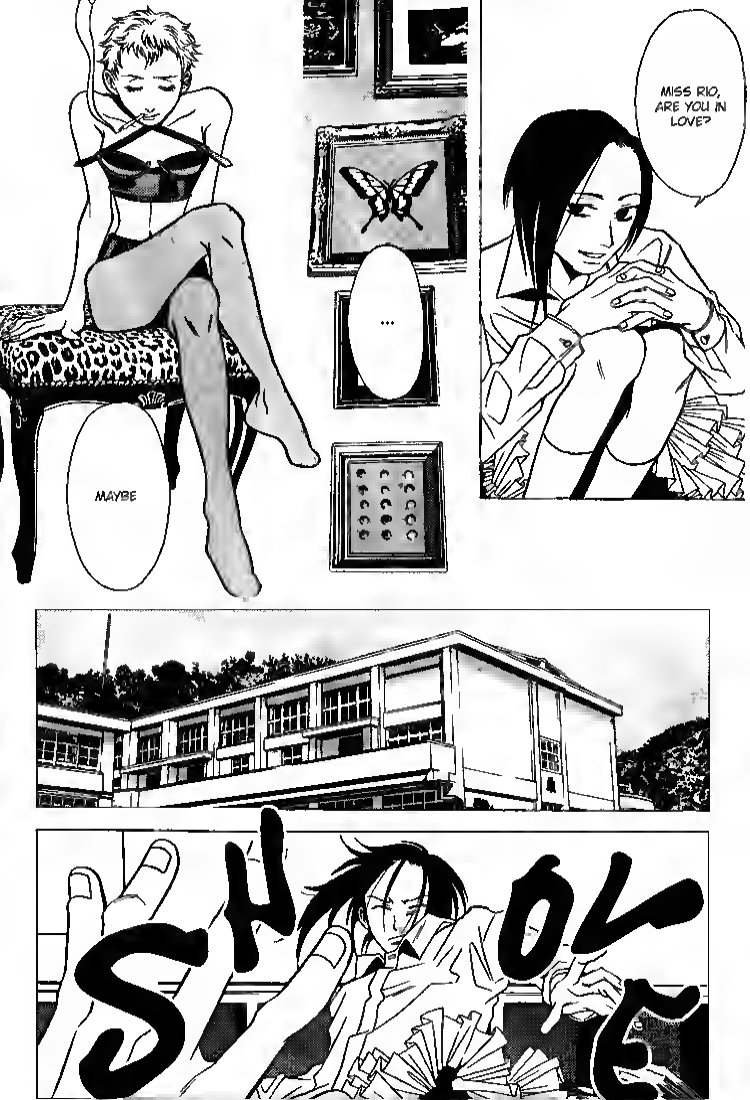
AT FIRST I WAS REALLY CONFUSED I THOUGHT IT'S STUPID
AN EFFEMINATE GUY
A GAY
KIDS
THEY BEHAVE LIKE SIX-YEAR-OLDS WHEN THEY'RE ALREADY IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.
Noo
STARTING TOMORROW, SHOULD I CALL YOU "MISS AKIHIRO"?
HI HI
STOP IT
HI HI HI HI
I'M AN AVERAGE STUDENT
AKI!

OH, MISS RIO
WON'T YOU COME OVER TO MY PLACE ?
I'VE FINISHED THE SKIRT YOU WERE ASKING FOR
REALLY? I'M COMING.. I'M COMING
Gah, she always looks like she was wearing only her lingerie
Maybe she's at work now?
SINCE I WAS LITTLE, MISS RIO HAS BEEN TAKING CARE OF ME- JUST LIKE AN OLDER SISTER
SHE TAUGHT ME TO SEW IN EUROPEAN STYLE AND KNIT.

THE SIZE'S PERFECT.
AKI, YOU LOOK GOOD EVEN IN A SKIRT.
VOILA! NOT BAD, HUH?
TRY IT ON
IS IT A MAN OR A WOMAN...
...ISN'T IT WEIRD IF A MAN WEARS A SKIRT?
MISS RIO—
OR MAYBE A GAY?
I DON'T WANT TO BE A WOMAN AT ALL.
I'M NOT A HOMOSEXUAL EITHER.

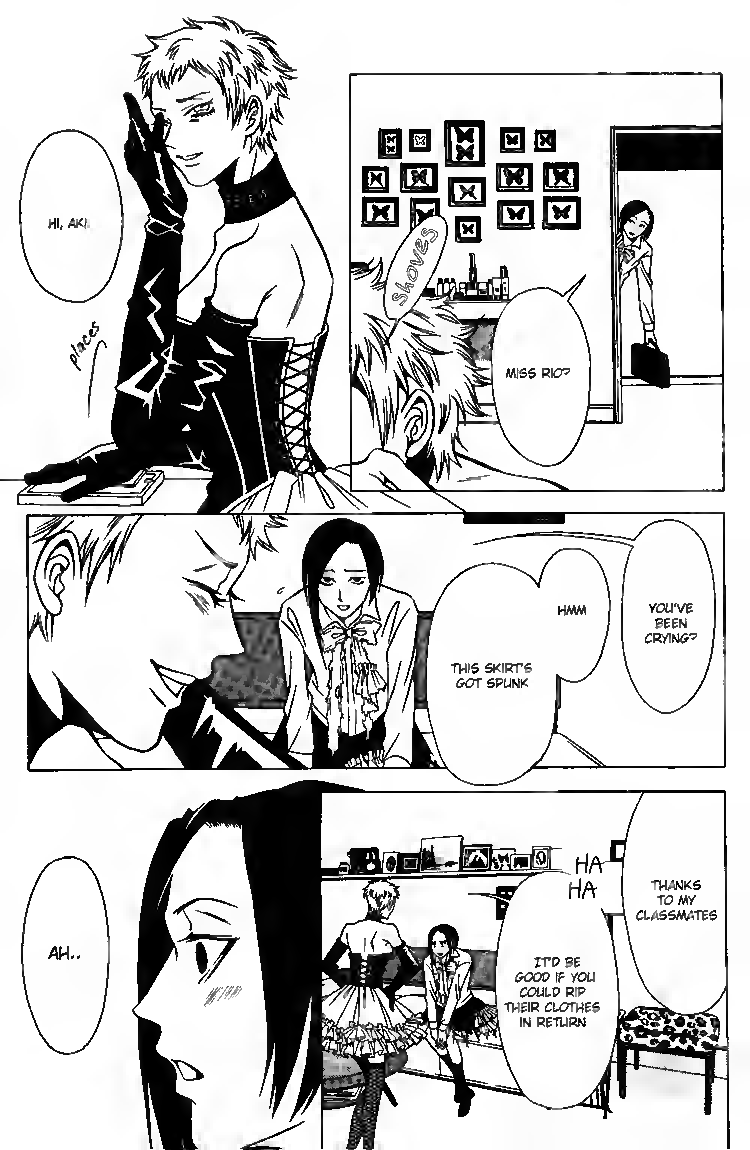
HMM...
YOU'RE AN "UNISEX"
NEITHER A WOMAN NOR A MAN.
YOU'RE CONSIDERED AS THE THIRD SEX.
ISN'T IT WONDERFUL? BE TRUE TO YOURSELF
THE MOST SHAMEFULL THING FOR A HUMAN IS TO LIE TO HIMSELF

HMM...
AH
IT'S NOT FINISHED YET
WHAT'S THIS? THIS DRESS?
IT'S A DRESS FOR AN ANGEL


MISS RIO, ARE YOU IN LOVE?
...
MAYBE
SHOOL

IT'S NO GOOD THAT YOU CAME TO SCHOOL LOOKING LIKE THAT
IT'S DISGUSTING
rips
PUSH HIM OVER THERE
RIP IT, RIP IT
Thud
RIPS

rustle
rustle
catches
EVEN IF IT WAS DIFFICULT AND I WASN'T ABLE TO CONVEY IT TO OTHERS, I WENT THROUGH LIFE HOLDING MY HEAD HIGH.
Dad
MUST SHAMEFUL THING FOR A HUMAN IS TO LIE TO HIMSELF.

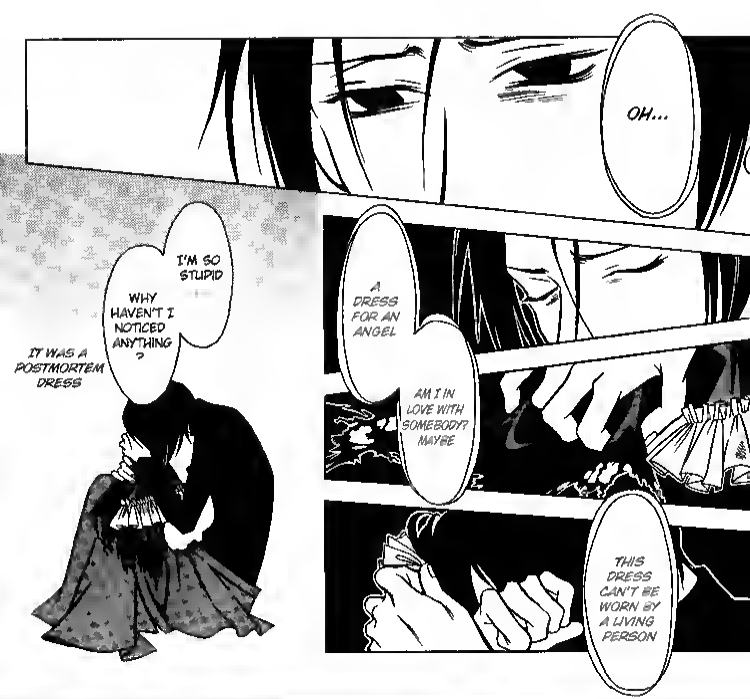

HI, AKI.
places
MISS RIO?
shoves
YOU'VE BEEN CRYING?
HMM
THIS SKIRT'S GOT SPUNK
THANKS TO MY CLASSMATES
HA HA
IT'D BE GOOD IF YOU COULD RIP THEIR CLOTHES IN RETURN
AH..

HOW WONDERFUL
YOU FINISHED THE DRESS FOR AN ANGEL...
YEAH...

BUT THIS DRESS CAN'T BE WORN BY A LIVING PERSON.
SOMEONE MUST'VE HURT HER
BACK THEN
SHE MUST'VE BEEN HURT
SUPER!
YOU KNOW AKI, I WON'T BE USING THIS SEWING MACHINE ANYMORE, YOU CAN HAVE IT
TOMIKO

I'M NOT AS GOOD AS MISS RIO.
AKIHIRO!
MR. AND MRS TOGAWA'S DAUGHTER ....
MISS RIO ....
IS DEAD.

ROSARY, ROSARY
HAS THE MOURNING OUTFIT BEEN RETURNED FROM THE DRY CLEANERS ?
MOM I'M GOING TOO
YOU STAY!
WHY?!
BECAUSE IT WAS A SUICIDE


OH...
A DRESS FOR AN ANGEL
AM I IN LOVE WITH SOMEBODY? MAYBE
THIS DRESS CAN'T BE WORN BY A LIVING PERSON
I'M SO STUPID
WHY HAVEN'T I NOTICED ANYTHING ?
IT WAS A POSTMORTEM DRESS

THE MOST SHAMEFUL THING FOR A HUMAN IS TO LIE TO HIMSELF.

IN ORDER TO HIDE IT, THEY ASSIGNED CREMATION
I'VE SEEN THE CORPSE. IT'S WRAPPED IN WHITE FABRIC, ALL THE WAY TO THE NECK- TO HIDE THE MARKS THE ROPE LEFT BEHIND.
IT MUST BE HARD ON THE PARENTS... THEY'RE SO DEPRESSED.

I HEARD THAT SHE HAD PROBLEMS IN HER JOB
SHE COULDN'T WEAR THE DRESS FOR AN ANGEL.
IN A PROVINCIONAL TOWN, THE HONOUR OF THE DEAD HAS BEEN VIOLATED
WAS SHE REALLY ABOUT TO ELOPE WITH A SIXTEEN-YEAR-OLD BOY... BUT HE STOOD HER UP?
YOU'RE MISTAKEN. RECENTLY SHE BROKE UP WITH HER GIRLFRIEND
DIDN'T SHE HAVE AN AFFAIR WITH HER FORMER UNIVERSITY TEACHER?
WHY WASN'T IT ENOUGH?
MISS RIO FOR SURE...

WAS TRUE TO HERSELF.

SHE DIED WITHOUT DECEIVING HERSELF.

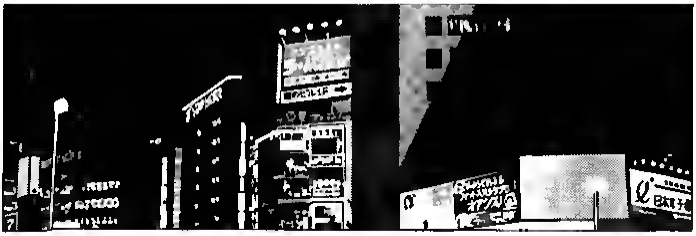
IT WAS A LESSON FOR ME.

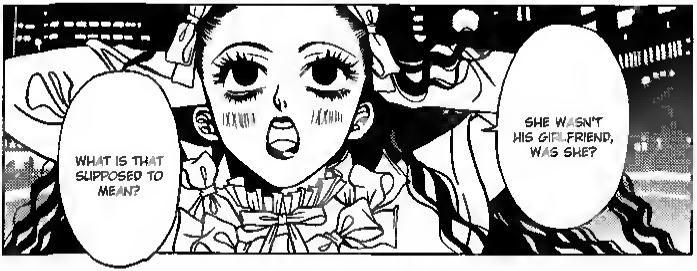
SHE TAUGHT ME HOW TO LIVE... AND IN EXCHANGE

I STILL MAKE DRESSES FOR ANGELS.

ETPORTA COELI
DING DONG
HUH?
CREAK
AGAIN MR SHINJURO, PLEASE DON'T LEAVE THE HOUSE LOOKING LIKE THIS
HMM
HE'S NAKED!
AH!
PERVERT!

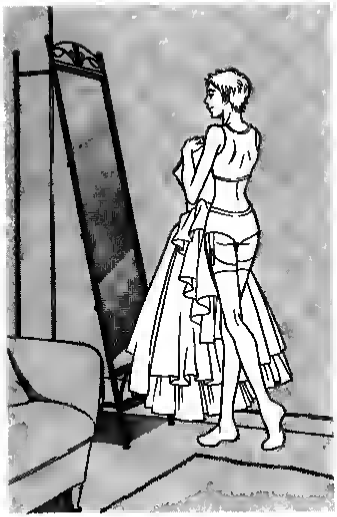
stare
stare
stare
stare
NO THAT CAN'T BE... OF COURSE NOT
Please don't associate me with him
Mm
ARE YOU MAMIYA SHINJURO'S GIRLFRIEND?
sigh
MR SHINJURO, THIS...
Be brave
A right?
I'm trying
IT'S AN HONOUR FOR ME
THE DEAD'S FAMILIES ALWAYS PRAISE CLOTHES MADE BY YOU
THANK YOU VERY MUCH





TO BE FRANK, I STILL DON'T KNOW IF IT WAS A POSTMORDEN DRESS.

MAYBE IT WAS HER WEDDING DRESS.



embalming 27
A dress for an angel
the end

Femme Fatale scans

The Embalmer

scans-translator-QC
mehmehmeh22

proofreader-editor
x-tina

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EMBALMING 28

I THINK I'M IN LOVE WITH MR. SHINJURO.
I SAID "I THINK", BECAUSE IN ORDER NOT TO FALL IN LOVE, I PUT UP MANY WALLS.
I DON'T REALLY KNOW WHAT KIND OF PERSON IS MR. SHINJURO.
I ALSO DON'T KNOW WHAT HE THINKS OF ME.

IF ONLY HE COULD LOVE ME EVEN A LITTLE BIT...

AND NOW A SIMPLE QUIZ
WHAT IS THIS?
A TRASH CAN
BESIDES THROWING THE TRASH, DO I HAVE TO CLEAN UP THE WHOLE ROOM?
THAT'S RIGHT!
IF YOU KNOW THIS, THEN WHY IS IT EMPTY?
...
AZUKI
HMM?

WON'T YOU COME TO CLEAN NEXT THURSDAY?

February
SUN MON TUE WED THU FRI SAT
1 2
3 4 5 6 7 8 9
15 11 12 13 11 15 16
17 18 11 20 21 22 23
24 25 26 27 28

EH? WHY?
COME, I'M SURE THE ROOM WILL BE A MESS.

WHY DURING THE WORKING WEEK?
It's something unusual

SQUEEZES
...
MR SHINJURO ...
SQUEEZES
OH...
FEBRUARY 14

SLASH
WELL
MAKE UP YOUR MIND- YOU'RE COMING OR NOT I'M REALLY BUSY!
What's with the attention?
I'LL COME I'LL COME IF IT'S THIS IMPORTANT, I'LL COME

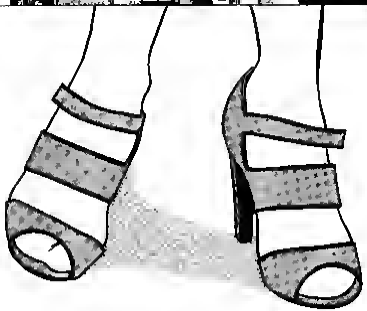
wah
grr
grr
grr
grr
WHAT TO DO? I FEEL SO LONELY NOW
wah
grr
Azuki Azuki prepares chocolates for brother
I WAS THINKING OF MAKING TRUFFLES BUT IT'S REALLY DIFFICULT
HUH
aah
THERE AREN'T MANY, SO I WON'T BE GIVING ANY TO YOU
turns
TURNS INTO STONE

IT'LL BE THE FIRST TIME I'LL BE GIVING MR SHINJURO CHOCOLATES.
I CAN HARDLY WAIT.
IT'LL BE A HINT FOR MR SHINJURO TO STOP TREATING ME LIKE A CHILD.
I WONDER... WILL HE BE HAPPY?
I STILL HOPE THAT IT'LL MEET HIS EXPECTATIONS

THE MOBIUS STRIP WRITHES FOR ETERNITY, WITHOUT ANY EFFECTS.

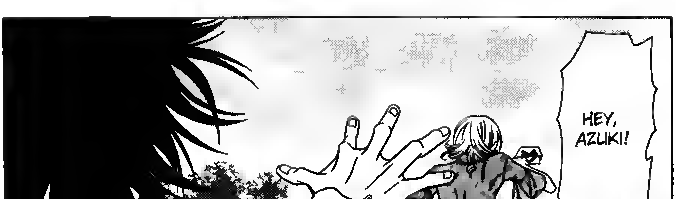
Huh

ONE OF THE WALLS HAS COME DOWN



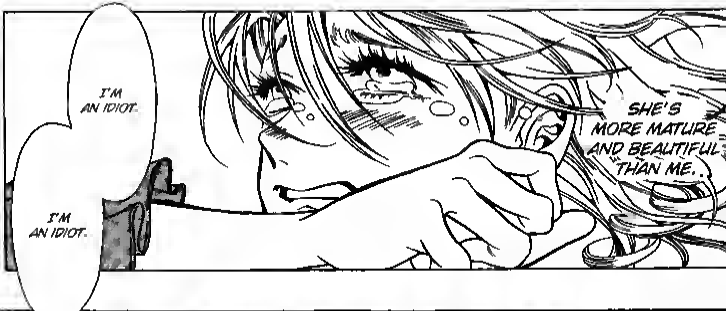
I'M COMING!
DING DONG
AZUKI

...
WHY?
OH,YES
Oh, in a suit
I'M SORRY AZUKI, BUT TODAY I CAN'T
IN THIS CASE
EXCUSE ME


HEY, AZUKI!

I'VE SEEN THAT BEAUTIFUL WOMAN BEFORE
LOOKS LIKE SHE MISUNDERSTOOD

KOYUKI, YOU HAVE TO TAKE RESPONS-IBILITY
BUT AFTER WE FINISH TALKING ABOUT JOB
clack



I STILL HOPE THAT IT'LL MEET HIS EXPECTATIONS.

MY MOOD HAS GOTTEN WORSE.
I'M NOT GOING TO MEET WITH MR. SHINJURO.
IT'S BEEN ALREADY THREE MONTHS
I'M HOME.
WHAT? IS BROTHER HOME?
It's rare.
Welcome home.
HE BROUGHT A COLLEGE FRIEND.
HIC HELLO, AZUKI!!

IT'S NOT NICE, TSUKIMICHI YOU ALWAYS BRAGGED ABOUT YOUR SISTER
I wanted to say hello
MR WAOWAO?
YOU MUST BE AZUKI! IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU
Uwaa!
WAOWAO, KEEP YOUR HANDS OFF MY SISTER!
WOE SO 4U!!
HA HA!
HA, HA MY REAL NAME IS WAO KAZUO
BUT EVERYONE CALLED ME WAOWAO
Azuki, your brother told his co-workers only your name
A sake drunk
rattle
clatter
AZUKI, WOULD YOU LIKE TO JOIN US?
CHOCOLATE FONDUE

Of course you can make also a cheese fondue
IT'S REALLY CONVENIENT AN UTENSIL WITH A HANDLE CAN BE BOUGHT ANYWHERE
YOU CAN PREPARE FONDUE AT HOME?
WE MET MOSTLY TO EMPTY OUT THIS BOX
PINKY SWEETS
THOSE ARE MY BROTHER'S STOCKS...
steams
steams
WHY DIDN'T IT SELL? "IT'S NOT FISH FOOD, IT'S CHOCOLATE"
HIC
I've been so confident when I invented that
Maybe it's the wrappings fault?
It's not fish food, it's chocolate
I'VE GOT A FULL BOX OF THESE HOW MANY FEASTS CAN BE DONE USING THAT

MAINLY STRAWBERRIES AND BANANAS SHOULD BE USED, BUT ALSO SPICY THINGS FIT THE CHOCOLATE...
aah.
BUT IT'S BETTER NOT TO EAT CHEESE WITH THA
WOW!
IT LOOKS DELICIOUS
...AT
bites
Mm
bleh
OH, AND ALSO THAT...
My brother has a weird sense OF taste

DELICIOUS!
YAKIIMO*?
I'VE SEEN A RECIPE IN THE INTERNET, IT'S SOMETHING DELICIOUS!
*ROASTED SWEETED POTATO
HMM!
MR WAO, DO YOU HAPPEN TO BE A GOURMET EXPERT?
Ha, ha, ha
USUALLY I GO ALONE TO TASTE ANMITSU* OR PIERRE MARCOLINI'S CHOCOLATES
COVERS
FOR SOME PEOPLE IT'S DIFFICULT TO UNDERSTAND THAT A MAN CAN EAT SOMETHING SWEET BY HIMSELF. BUT WHEN ONE LOOKS AT ME, IT'S EASY TO UNDERSTAND.
SLAPS
AHA~

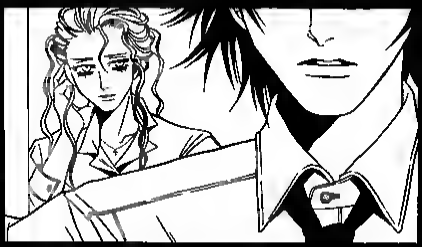
*JAPANESE DESSERT MADE OF SMALL CUBES OF WHITE TRANSLUCENT JELLY MADE FROM SEAWEED. SERVED IN A BOWL WITH SWEET BEAN PASTE, BOILED BEANS AND FRUITS

WHAT IS YOUR OCCUPATION?
SNORE
SNORE
the marshmallows are also delicious.
HMM
MY JOB IS TO MEET PEOPLE WHO OTHERS DON'T LISTEN TO.
Oh...
MAYBE HE'S A SOCIAL WORKER
LET'S EAT.
THE CHOCOLATES I PREPARED FOR SOMEBODY BECAME OF NO USE. IT'S PATHETIC

AZUKI?
stands up
THESE
RUSTLE
HA HA
RUSTLE
ARE TRUFFLES CAN WE USE THEM FOR THE FINDUE?
bubble
bubble

THEY MELTED.

THE CHOCOLATES AND MY FEELINGS...



EVEN IF I HAD TO BE TREATED AS A FRIEND OR A YOUNGER SISTER...

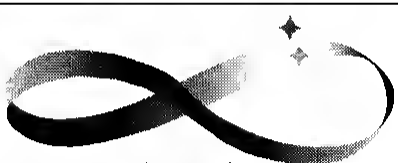
I WANTED TO PROTECT MY RELATIONS WITH MR SHINJURO WHICH ARE SO IMPORTANT TO ME...

AZUKI
EEH?
AH—
I DON'T KNOW WHO HE IS, BUT IT'S NOT A GOOD GUY.

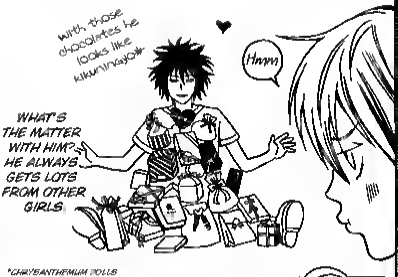
WRITHES...

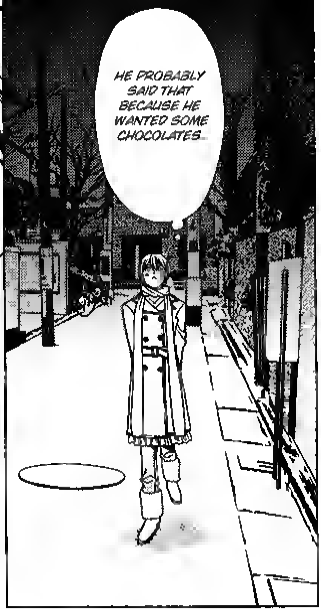
WRITHES...

TO CUT THE MOBIUS STRIP.



the end


with those chocolates he looks like kikunosuke*
Hmm
WHAT'S THE MATTER WITH HIM? HE ALWAYS GETS LOTS FROM OTHER GIRLS
*CHRYSANTHEMUM DOLL



CAN I THINK THAT I'M NOT ONE OF MANY

Femme Fatale scans

The Embalmer

scans-translator-QC
mehmehmeh22

proofreader-editor
x-tina

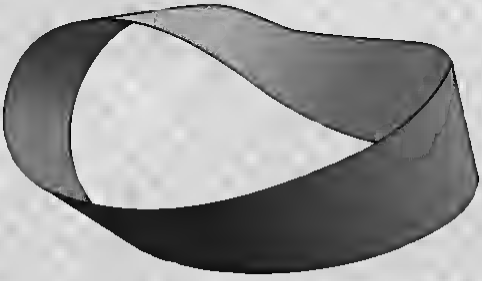
http://femmefatalescan.livejournal.com/

Info

The Möbius strip or Mobius band is a surface with only one side and only one boundary component. It was discovered independently by the German mathematicians August Ferdinand Mobius and Johann Benedict Listing in 1858.

PROPERTIES:If you draw a line down the middle of the strip until you get back to your starting point, you will find that you draw on both sides of the paper. The twist in the paper makes you change sides as you draw around.

Cutting a Möbius strip along the centerline yields one long strip with two full twists in it, rather than two separate strips,the result is not a Möbius strip. This happens because the original strip only has one edge which is twice as long as the original strip.

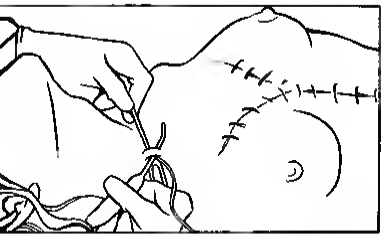


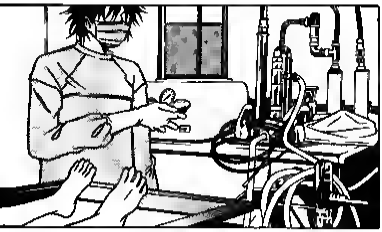
EMBALMING 20

CHEATING, CHEATING, CHEATING!
IT REALLY STARTS TO GET ON MY NERVES
KANAYA SAID HE SAW YOU WITH SOME GUY
IT WAS MY BOSS. YOU'RE ANNOYING.
IF YOU DON'T BELIEVE ME, IT'S BETTER IF WE DIVORCE
HOW CAN YOU LIE TO MY FACE?!
STOP IT!

I'M SORRY
LET'S NOT DIVORCE.
I LOVE ..
IF YOU UNDERSTAND THAT, DON'T YELL AT ME.
ALL BECAUSE OF "NAILS".

I'VE CARRIED OUT MANY EMBALMINGS, BUT IT'S RARE FOR THE CORPSE TO BE "OUT OF PLACE".
SHE UNDOUBTEDLY WAS THE CASE OF A BODY "OUT OF PLACE".
MRS SHINJOU NANAKO, 24
BRAIN DAMAGE DUE TO A FALL FROM A LADDER.
AN AUTOPSY HAS BEEN PERFORMED





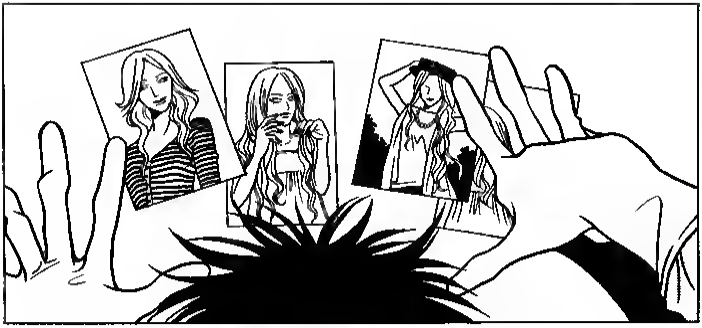
IT'S DIFFICULT TO CARRY OUT AN EMBALMING AFTER AN AUTOPSY.

After opening the head and abdominal cavity it's difficult to preserve blood vessels.

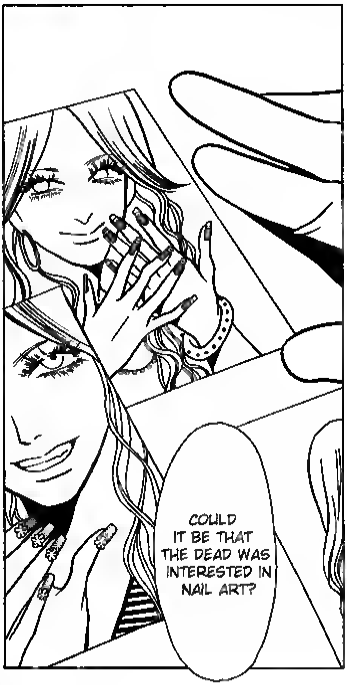
In the USA during embalmings special threads are used to secure the blood vessels

THE SPREADING OF ARTERIAL SOLUTION IS CHECKED ON THE FINGERTIPS.

?
UNNATURAL FINGERNAILS



IT'S WEIRD


COULD IT BE THAT THE DEAD WAS INTERESTED IN NAIL ART?

SOMETHING'S..

...SCRATCHED.
ETC.
ONLY MY IMAGINATION
TOMOYA, DO YOUR BEST AT WORK.
I'M MEETING UP WITH A HIGH-SCHOOL FRIEND I HAVEN'T SEEN IN A LONG TIME.

Ahn..
Shin...
MR SHINJURO ...
hmm
Aah..

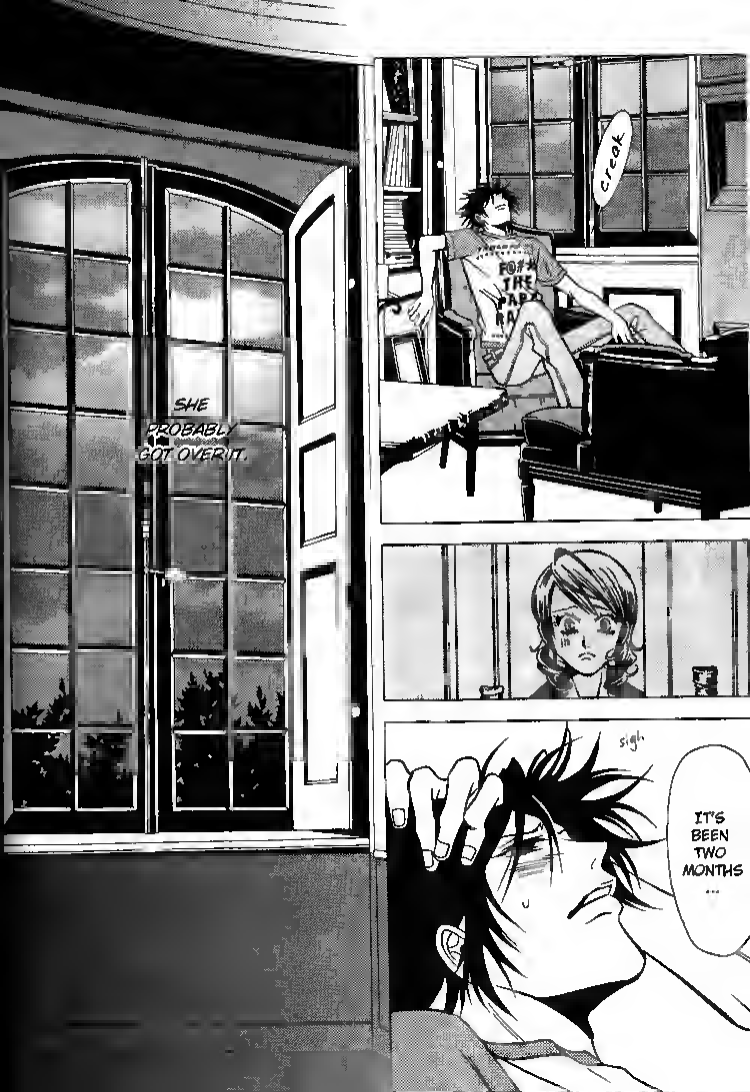
MR SHINJURO
MR SHINJURO...
...

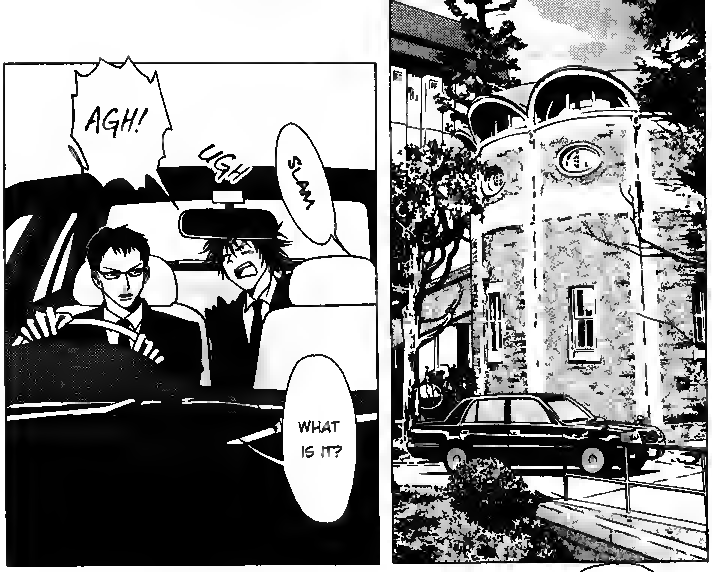
NO..
YOU'RE MEAN CALLING OTHER WOMAN'S NAME
Did it slip?

HUH
HEY, SHIN!
WHO THE HECK IS AZUKI?

!
RINA, SWEETIE
I'M LEAVING!
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT... THOSE NAILS...
IT'S ENOUGH FOR TODAY
WAIT!
WHAT'S THIS?
OH, THESE? I HAD THEM DONE IN A BEAUTY PARLOUR RECENTLY. NICE, AREN'T THEY?

SHOULDN'T YOU CUT THEM WITH A NAIL CLIPPER?
NO WAY. IT COST ME SO MUCH TROUBLE THERE ARE ZIRCONS ATTACHED TO THEM. BESIDES, YOU HAVE TO KNOW PRECISELY WHERE TO USE THE VARNISH REMOVER
SCRATCH
AGH!
THAT'S PAYBACK FOR WHAT YOU SAID EARLIER. NAIL ART IS A DEADLY WEAPON.
I put on three layers of nail polish!


SHE PROBABLY GOT OVER IT.
creak
sigh
IT'S BEEN TWO MONTHS ...


AGH!
UGH
SLAM
WHAT IS IT?

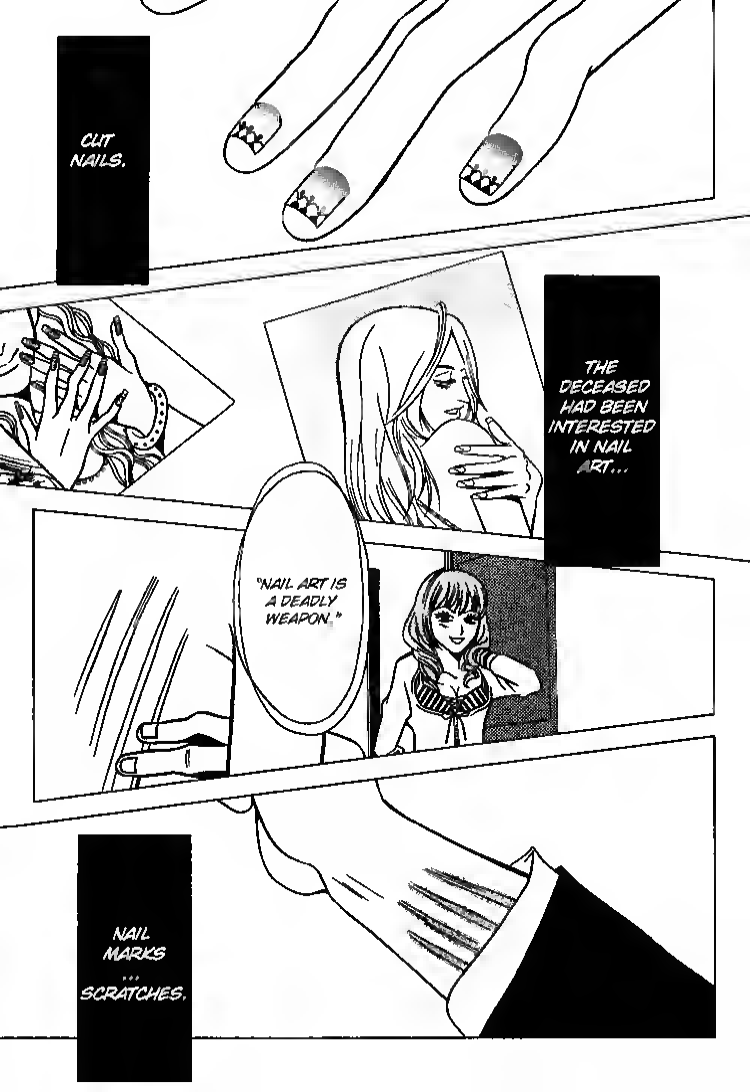
EHM... A CAT SCRATCHED MY BACK
fix your hair
IT MUST'VE BEEN A KITTEN WHO USES PERFUME DON'T BOTHER

NANAKO FUNERAL CEREMONY

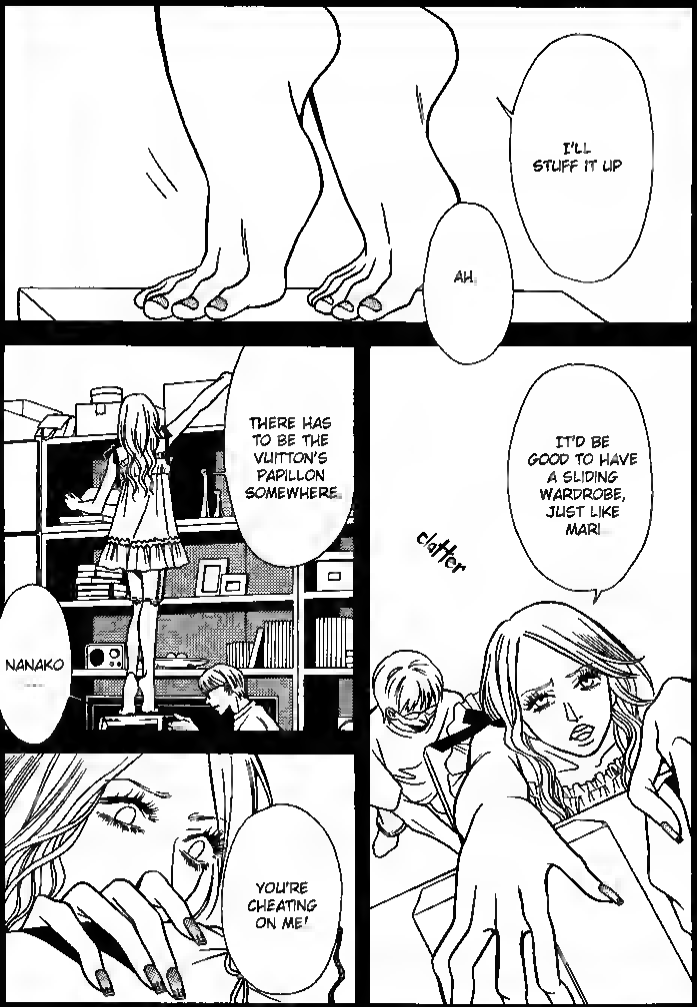
I'M SORRY I HAD TO TROUBLE YOU SIRS...
MY SON IS IMMERSED IN SADNESS.
HE DOESN'T SAY ANYTHING BUT HOLDS THE BODY AND CRIES...
IT'S OKAY
SEICHI...
THE GENTLEMEN CAME TO REAPPLY THE MAKE-UP
AH, GO AHEAD.

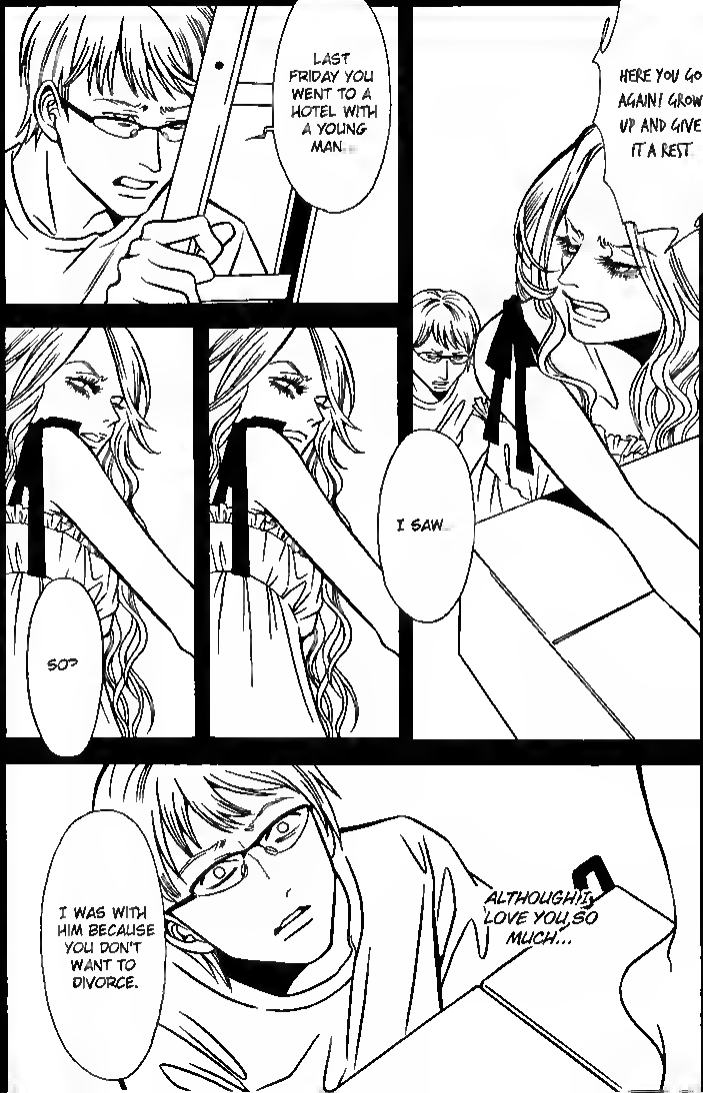
MY WIFE... NANAKO WAS SO BEAUTIFUL THAT EVERYONE WAS JEALOUS OF ME.
AND UNLIKE ME,SHE HAD A GOOD TASTE.
SHE WAS TOO GOOD FOR SOMEONE LIKE ME..
TOO GOOD FOR ME... ONLY FOR ME...
?
HOW ABOUT WE PUT MORE FLOWERS AROUND THE FACE?
I'LL DO IT.

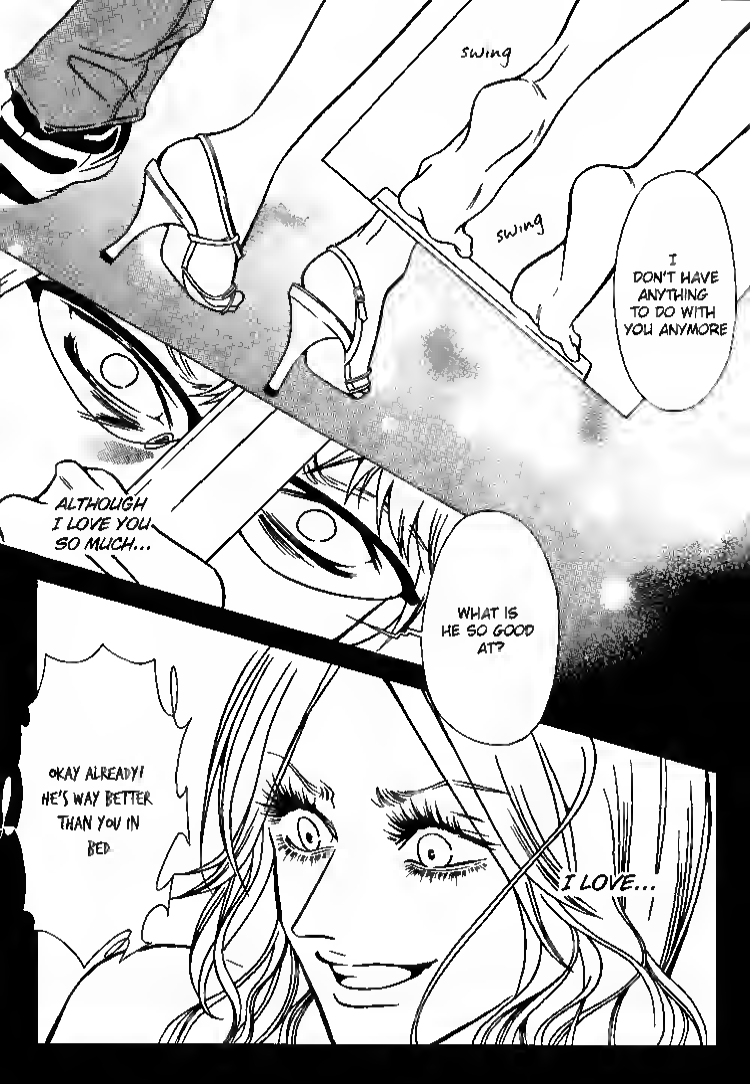
NANAKO REALLY LIKED GERBERAS

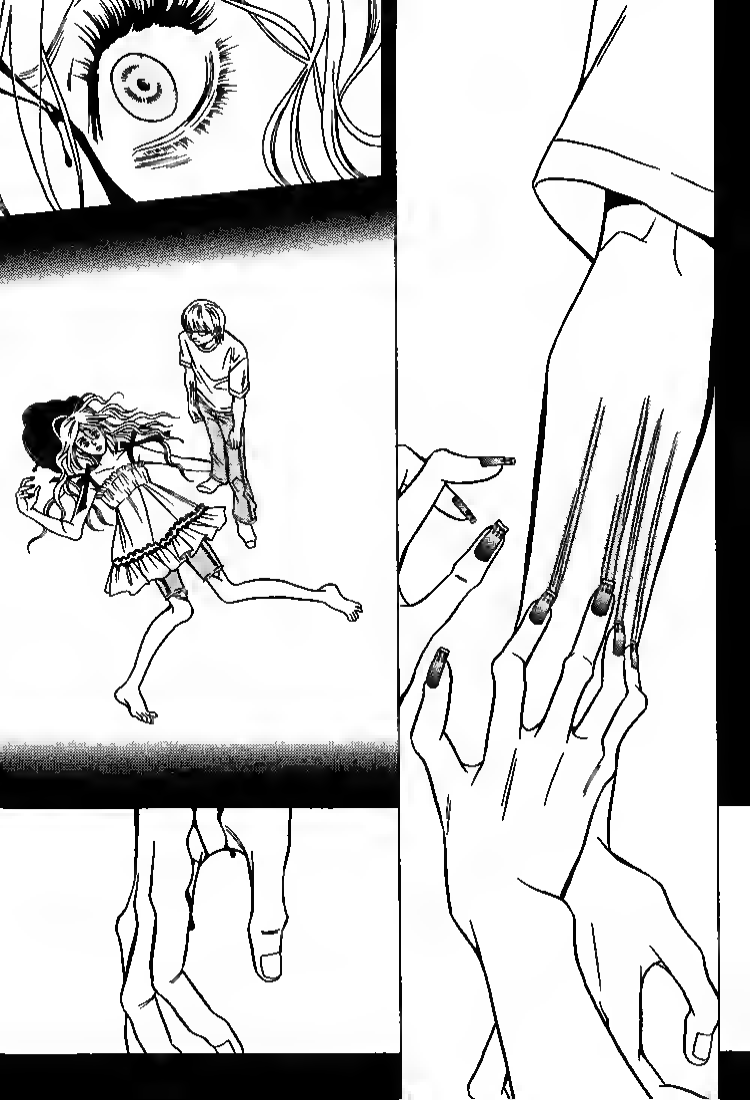

CUT NAILS.
THE DECEASED HAD BEEN INTERESTED IN NAIL ART...
"NAIL ART IS A DEADLY WEAPON."
NAIL MARKS ... SCRATCHES.

SCRATCHES
MISTER
MISTER EMBALMER
PLEASE
ALRIGHT
PLEASE USE THEM


I'LL STUFF IT UP
AH
IT'D BE GOOD TO HAVE A SLIDING WARDROBE, JUST LIKE MARI
clatter
THERE HAS TO BE THE VUITTON'S PAPILLON SOMEWHERE
NANAKO
YOU'RE CHEATING ON ME!

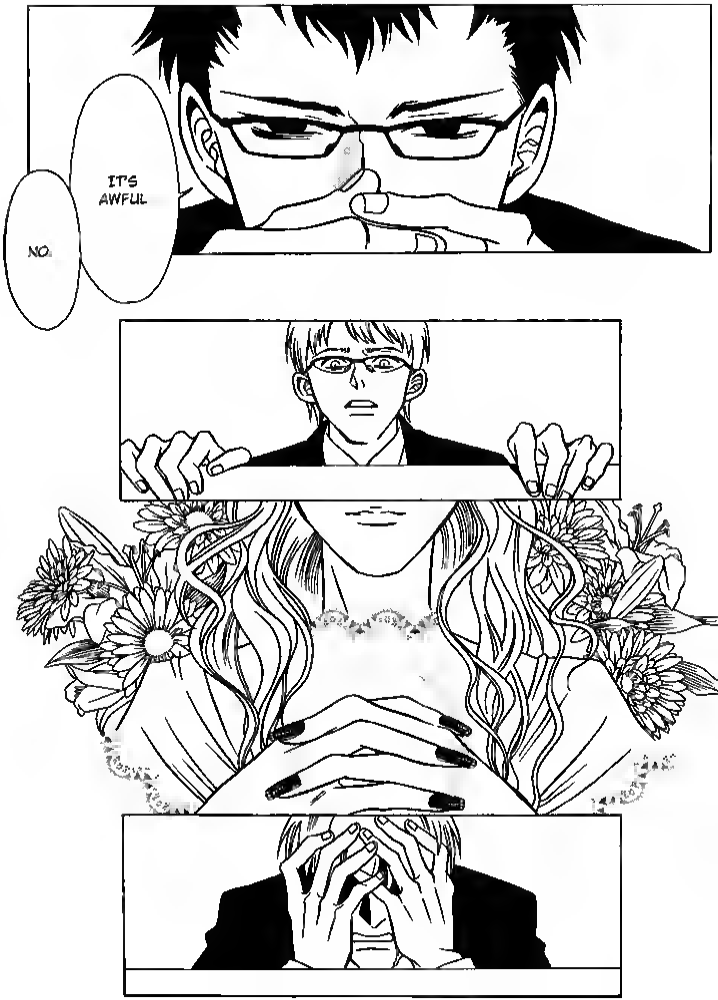

LAST FRIDAY YOU WENT TO A HOTEL WITH A YOUNG MAN...
HERE YOU GO AGAIN! GROW UP AND GIVE IT A REST.
I SAW...
SO?
I WAS WITH HIM BECAUSE YOU DON'T WANT TO DIVORCE.
ALTHOUGH I'S LOVE YOU SO MUCH...


swing
swing
I DON'T HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH YOU ANYMORE
ALTHOUGH I LOVE YOU SO MUCH...
WHAT IS HE SO GOOD AT?
OKAY ALREADY! HE'S WAY BETTER THAN YOU IN BED
I LOVE...



CL
ICK
THAT'S JUST YOUR ASSUMPTION
YOU DON'T HAVE ANY PROOF
click
CUT HIS WIFE'S NAILS
click
THE HUSBAND AFRAID THAT DRIED BLOOD AND CUTICLES UNDER THE FINGERNAILS WILL GIVE HIM AWAY...

IN THE USA, IT CAN BE REPORTED TO THE POLICE
DUE TO THE ABOVE-MENTIONED CIRCUMSTANCES AND FINDING PROBABLE PROOF ON THE DEAD'S BODY, AN EMBALMER HAS THE DUTY TO REPORT IT.
IN JAPAN THERE IS NO SUCH LAW
NAH,
THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH, LABOUR AND WELFARE WON'T DEVOTE ITS ATTENTION TO LAWS CONCERNING EMBALMING
MAYBE IT WAS JUST AN ACCIDENT


IT'S AWFUL
NO.

IS THAT SO...
I THINK THAT AFTER ALL, HE HAD YOU EMBALM HIS WIFE OUT OF LOVE
HE'LL LIVE BEING TORMENTED BY FEELINGS OF GUILT TILL THE END OF HIS DAYS. THE AWARENESS OF IT WILL BE HIS PRISON ..
MAMIYA,
MAYBE THE SCRATCHES ON YOUR BACK ALSO COST SOMEBODY'S LIFE?
AGH!
UGH

Embalming 29
the memory hidden behind a fingernail
the end

Femme Fatale scans

The Embalmer

scans-translator-QC
mehmehmeh22

proofreader-editor
x-tina

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EMBALMING 30

MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE...
THERE ARE INSTITUTIONS THAT CLARIFY THE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH AN AUTOPSY IS PERFORMED AFTER POLICE'S SUGGESTION IN CASE OF A SUDDEN DEATH- WHEN THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE UNKNOWN OR AFTER AN ACCIDENT.
THOSE KINDS OF INSTITUTIONS FUNCTION ONLY IN FIVE CITIES: TOKYO, YOKOHAMA, OSAKA, NAGOYA AND KOBE
SHIKATO
TODAY WE HAVE TWO DECEASED ON THE TABLE IF WE GET OVER WITH IT QUICKLY, WE'LL BE ABLE TO GO FOR YAKINIKU*

(* FRIED MEAT)

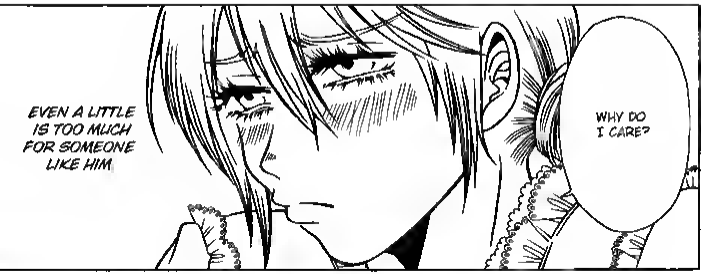
Not "Shikato," it's "Shikato"
HA HA
THE NEWBIES... ALL OF YOU ARE SO SERIOUS
MR IWAGURO, WHEN TALKING, PLEASE DON'T PUT EMPHASIS ON "TO"
IT'S INAPPROPRIATE
JO
HAVE YOU BEEN LIKE THAT SINCE YOU WERE BORN?
THE INJURIES INDICATE DEATH DUE TO DROWNING IN A RIVER
DO WE KNOW WHAT CAUSED THE DEATH?
I GUESS NOT
MEASURE THE RECTAL TEMPERATURE
BUT... THE BODY IS ALL BRUISED

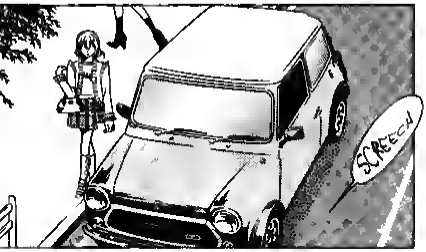
NEWBIE REMEMBER THIS
Usually in case of drowning, a lot of water gets into the lungs and the body drowns. The corpse moves along the bottom of a river, it's heavily wounded because of the stream.
But if a person was killed and thrown into a river, then a little amount of water gets into the lungs and the body floats, that's why it's not wounded.
Ah
Of course, there are exceptions
That's why autopsies are performed

ANOTHER CORPSE
DEATH DUE TO FALL FROM A LADDER. WOMAN, 24
THE BRAIN'S PROBABLY DAMAGED, SO WE'LL START FROM THE HEAD WE'LL MAKE A CUT ON THE NECK
MR IWAGURO, WHAT WILL THE DEAD'S FAMILY THINK WHEN WE RETURN THE BODY ALL STITCHED TOGETHER TO THEM?
IT MUST BE A PROBLEM, ESPECIALLY WHEN IT COMES TO WOMEN AND CHILDREN
TOUTE EVIL
It's obvious
YAWN
SHIKATO, IT'S THEIR PROBLEM, NOT OURS.

I...
UNDERSTAND THAT, BUT...
IMAGINE THAT SOMEBODY KILLS A MEMBER OF YOUR FAMILY AND PASSES IT OFF AS DEATH DUE TO A SICKNESS... WHAT THEN?
OKAY ALREADY, NEWBIE! OUR JOB IS TO FIND THE "TRUE CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH"
MAYBE THE NEXT TIME THE POLICE SHOULD TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE BODY... FOR THE DEAD'S FAMILY'S SAKE...

HMM. FOR EXAMPLE EMBALMING
MR. SHINJURO'S ROOM
... MUST BE MESSY.
I'M SORRY
HE MUST BE EATING ONLY INSTANT NOODLES AND TAKEOUT BENTO*
*PACKED LUNCH





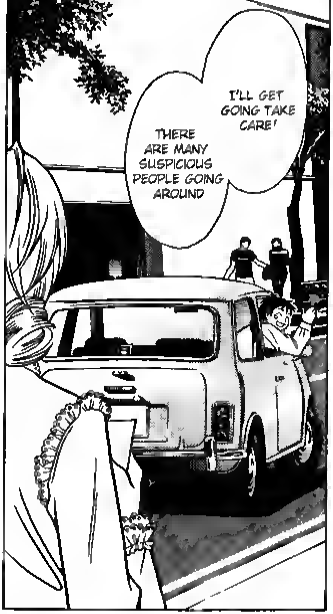
I REALISED THAT...

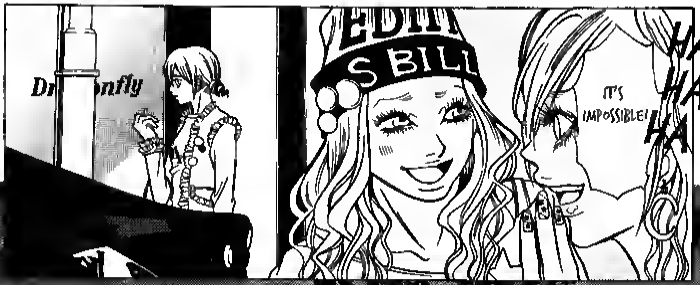
... LOOKING AT THE CHOCOLATES

FEELINGS DON'T MELT SO EASILY.

THANKS FOR OUR LAST MEETING
DO YOU NEED A RIDE?
NO, NO I'M ALMOST THERE.
...
SURE
THAT'S MY E-MAIL ADDRESS. MAYBE WE CAN GRAB SOMETHING SWEET TO EAT SOME TIME?
smiles
I'VE FOUND A GOOD PLACE IN SHIKOMITA
WHERE YOU CAN BUY HIROSHIMAYAKI

HIROSHIMA'S VERSION OF OKONOMIYAKI. A KIND OF CROSS BETWEEN A PANCAKE AND A CREPE


I'LL GET GOING TAKE CARE!
THERE ARE MANY SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE GOING AROUND


Dr nfly
EDIT
S BILL
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE!
HA, HA, HA

Sniff
Aww

Yeah,
CAN YOU BELIEVE HE HAS GOOD EYESIGHT? HE'S WEARING NON-PRESCRIPTION GLASSES TO MAKE HIMSELF LOOK MORE SERIOUS IN FRONT OF THE DEAD PEOPLE'S FAMILIES.
RENJI'S SO SERIOUS
KOYUKI, YOU THINK SO TOO, RIGHT?
SO?
AND HONESTLY, WHAT DID YOU COME TO TALK ABOUT?

I GUESSED RIGHT.
blush
WHAT?
LISTEN TO ME
I FIGURED YOU OUT. IF YOU'RE UNUSUALLY TALKATIVE AND JOYFUL, IT'S A SIGN THAT YOU'RE WORRIED.
YOU'RE AFRAID THAT YOU'LL LOSE SOMEONE SO YOU SURROUND YOURSELF WITH WOMEN YOU DON'T CARE ABOUT.
IT'S PROBABLY CAUSED BY BEING AROUND DEAD PEOPLE EVERYDAY.

JUST LIKE ME
IT'S BETTER TO CONFESS YOUR FEELINGS
OTHERWISE YOU'RE GONNA REGRET IT.

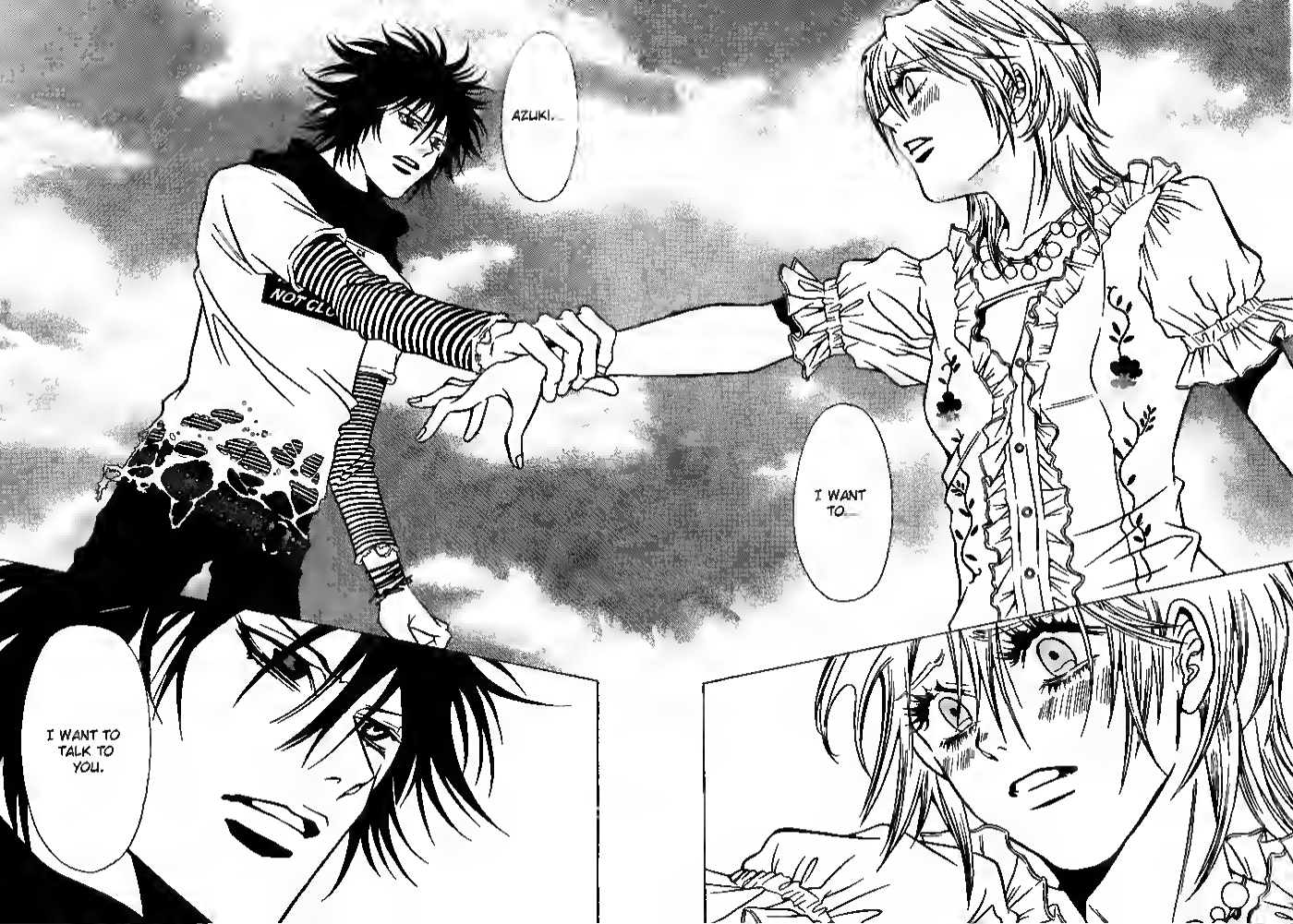
THANKS FOR ADVICE

AZUKI, YOU CAN CALL IT A DAY
Ah, OKAY
OPEN
WHERE?
Yeah, SINCE SOME TIME AGO, A HOT GUY, HALF-JAPANESE HAS BEEN STANDING OUTSIDE.
thump
IT CAN'T BE
THUMP
IT CAN'T BE.....

AZUKI
SHIN
THUMP
WE MAKE NOISE NOT CLOTHES
There she goes!
MAKE NOISE
T CLOTHES

MR SHINJURO
MR SHINJURO, PLEASE WAIT
Hmm
WHY SO SUDDEN?
IS IT ABOUT CLEANING?

IF IT'S ABOUT CLEANING, THEN PLEASE ASK THAT WOMAN ABOUT IT
IT'S NOT LIKE THAT.
I DON'T WANT TO DO IT ANYMORE
MAYBE SHE WILL TAKE CARE OF IT
IT'S NOT WHAT I WANTED TO TELL YOU.
JUST NOW I
...AM REALLY UNKIND.
I DON'T WANT TO CLEAN ANYMORE


AZUKI...
I WANT TO...
I WANT TO TALK TO YOU.

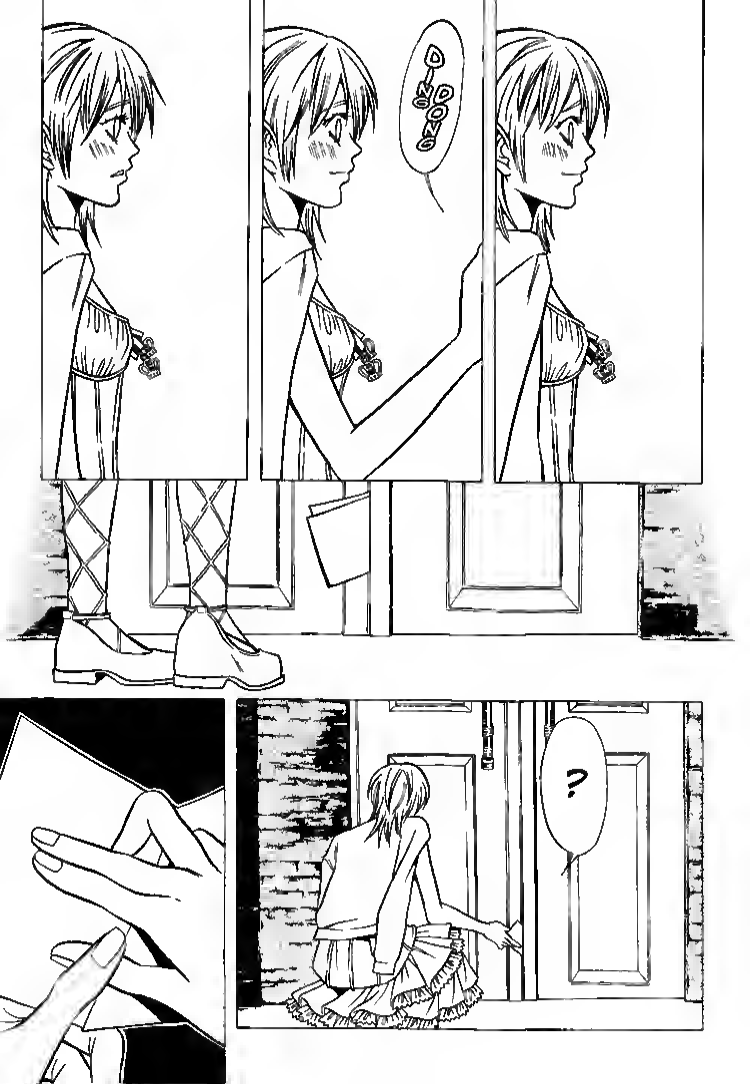
I FEEL LIKE CRYING...
COME TO THE CHURCH TOMORROW
TOMORROW
I, AFTER ALL...

MR SHINJURO...
OKAY
BIG

...
RING
startled
RING
RING
RING
clatter

RENJI...
MAMIYA SPEAKING...
That idiot...
MEDICAL...
EXAMINER'S OFFICE?
BAZAR

SNUK
DAMN IT, WHERE'S AZUKI...
I GOT IT.
TEA FLAVOURED CHIFFON CAKE AND BLACKBERRY CHEESECAKE
THE NUMBER YOU ARE TRYING TO REACH IS CURRENTLY UNAVAILABLE
PLEASE TRY AGAIN LATER
DING DONG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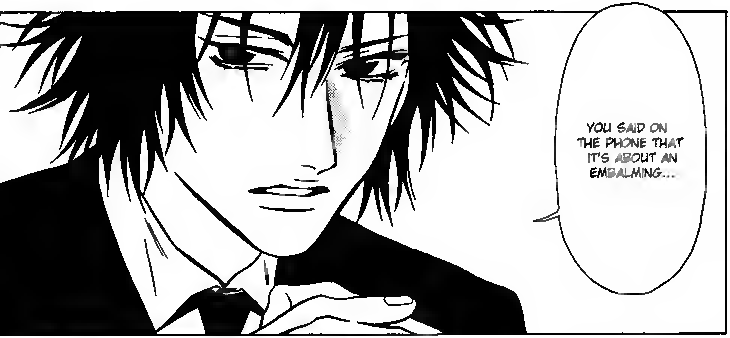
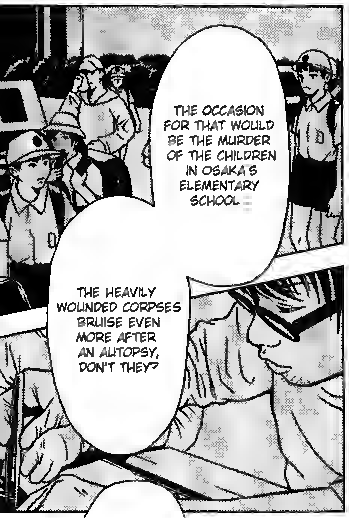
AZUKI, I'M SORRY! SOMETHING URGENT CAME UP. I'LL CALL YOU.
I UNDERSTAND THAT IT'S A HEAVY JOB
WHAT TO DO...
SLIDE
shine shine

SLIDE
CLICK
WAO KAZUO
HOW ARE YOU?
I'VE FOUND A CAFE
WHERE DELICIOUS
WAFERS ARE SERVED.
WHEN WILL YOU HAVE
SOME FREE TIME?
^_^
CLICK

I'M SORRY FOR THE SUDDEN CALL...
MY NAME'S SHIKATO JIROU FROM MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE
COFFEE ?
MR IWAGURO ISN'T ON DUTY NOW. SO IT'S A GOOD MOMENT.
HE'S A PERSON WHO'S INTERSTED ONLY IN THE CAUSE OF DEATH AND DOESN'T CARE ABOUT THE STATE OF THE BODY

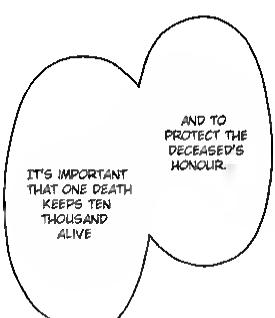

YOU SAID ON THE PHONE THAT IT'S ABOUT AN EMBALMING...


THE OCCASION FOR THAT WOULD BE THE MURDER OF THE CHILDREN IN OSAKA'S ELEMENTARY SCHOOL...
THE HEAVILY WOUNDED CORPSES BRUISE EVEN MORE AFTER AN AUTOPSY, DON'T THEY?

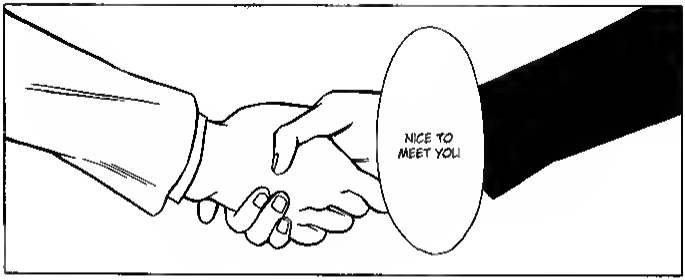
WE SHOULD THINK ABOUT THE FAMILY'S FEELINGS TOO

IT WAS MORE OF THE POLICE'S REQUEST.
IN THIS REGION WE'D LIKE TO TRY EMBALMING THE VICTIMS OF CRIMES..

...
THE DUTY OF A MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE'S EMPLOYEE IS TO GIVE THE BODY TO THE FAMILY
I'VE BEEN WORKING HERE SINCE NOT LONG AGO, BUT...
I'VE SEEN MANY PEOPLE FROM A DEAD PERSON'S FAMILY BURST OUT CRYING AFTER SEEING THE BODY IN AN AWFUL STATE...


AND TO PROTECT THE DECEASED'S HONOUR.
IT'S IMPORTANT THAT ONE DEATH KEEPS TEN THOUSAND ALIVE

HA, HA THOSE ARE THE INFORMATION I HEARD FROM THE SENIOR WORKERS
YEAH...
SHIKATO!
OH! SPEAKING OF THE DEVIL
I'LL INTRODUCE...
I' M MAMIYA SHINJURO, EMBALMER.


NICE TO MEET YOU

I'M WAO KAZUO FROM MEDICAL EXAMINER'S OFFICE

To be continued...